



**King County
International Airport**
Department of
Construction & Facilities Management
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March 1, 2001

FAX DISTRIBUTION

TO: Airport Tenants

FR: Cynthia Stewart, Airport Manager

RE: Airport Conditions

Before proceeding to describe the conditions here at the Airport and what to expect, I want to start by thanking all of you for your patience and good will yesterday following the earthquake. We know how serious this situation is for your businesses, and we appreciate your working with us to optimize our efficient response. You have all been terrific!

The conditions right now are as follows:

- Liquifaction on the field has caused numerous cracks, sink holes and other problems on the long and short runways, taxiways, aprons and grass safety areas. We are still in the process of analyzing what this means in terms of repairs and access.
- The runway area most affected is the north half of Runway 13R/13L, with the most serious defects located just north of the 5000-foot distance-to-go marker.
- US Geological Survey and FAA staff are helping us to evaluate what may underlie the pavement both in the areas where visible defects have appeared and in the areas where the pavement appears to be undamaged. We hope to have a great deal of additional information by the end of today. Our concern is that there may be sink holes under the pavement that appears undamaged, which would damage heavy aircraft should they cause pavement failure.
- Because of that possibility, we have opened the south 5000 feet of Runway 13R/31L for light aircraft, those below 12,500 pounds, and to helicopters only.
- ATCT staff are currently working from the ARFF station. We expect to obtain a temporary ATCT Tower to allow FAA staff to continue to operate most efficiently while their Tower undergoes the permanent seismic repairs that we had already planned for this fall.
- We have authority from the King County Executive to do whatever we can to move expeditiously to repair the pavement, so once we have identified an action plan, we will do whatever it takes to reopen as soon as possible.



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- The Terminal Building may have sustained some damage, but early assessments are that the damage is primarily cosmetic. Customs will operate from the Airport Administration office until more is known. We hope to be able to reopen the Terminal (including Arrivals and Baggage Claims areas) to all users by the end of today; but in any case, we will notify all tenants as soon as the plan has been established.

WE WILL INFORM YOU ALL AS SOON AS THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE ACTIVE AREAS HAS BEEN DEVELOPED.

Until further notice, please try to refrain from pressuring our reception staff and ARFF officers, who cannot provide any additional information at this time. We will be in contact via telephone and fax as soon as additional information is available. In the meantime, if you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 206-296-7380 (Airport receptionists can reach me at any time).

Thank you again for your patience during this very difficult time.